

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-01 AID-05 IGA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 DHA-02 IO-13 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HEW-04

HUD-01 /077 W

-----051201Z 013871 /41

P 051036Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3097

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 3263

FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF (OFDA)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, EAID, OREP, RO

SUBJECT: STAFFDEL VISIT: EARTHQUAKE AID

REF: (A) STATE 098134 (B) STATE 096480

1. ON BASIS OF THEIR TOUR OF EARTHQUAKE AREAS DEHANN AND TINKER REACHED CONCLUSION THAT ROMANIA NEEDED AND COULD EFFECTIVELY USE FULL \$20 MILLION IN CONGRESSIONALLY-AUTHORIZED AID. OUR ASSISTANCE, THEY FELT, WOULD BE IN REASONABLE PROPORTION TO AID RECEIVED FROM ALL DONORS. CONTRASTING SITUATION HERE WITH WHAT DEHANN HAD SEEN IN ITALY, THEY WERE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY ROMANIANS' EFFORTS TO MOVE AHEAD WITH RECONSTRUCTION. STAFFDEL WAS RECEIVED FOR BRIEF COURTESY CALL MAY 4 BY CEAUSESCU TO DELIVER MESSAGE FROM SEN. KENNEDY. MESSAGE WAS VERY GENERAL IN CONTENT. IN HIS RESPONSE CEAUSESCU EXPRESSED THANKS FOR SENATOR'S INITIATIVE IN SPONSORING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND TO PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPORT.

2. FROM STAFFDEL'S VIEWPOINT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT SUB-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STANTIAL PORTION OF AID BE DISBURSED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THEY ENDORSED USE OF DISASTER ACCOUNT TO COVER URGENT REQUIREMENTS WITH DEHANN COMMENTING HE SAW NO REASON WHY BULK OF FUNDS IN DISASTER ACCOUNT COULD NOT BE DRAWN DOWN FOR FIRST PHASE OF PROGRAM. THEIR FIRM IMPRESSION IS THAT SENATOR KENNEDY WOULD BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT THIS APPROACH IN DISCUSSIONS WITH APPROPRIATION COMMITTEE, ON THE BASES

OF EARLY TALKS HE HAD HAD WITH SENATOR.

3. BOTH STAFFERS EXPRESSED SOME RESERVATION GIVEN SEN. KENNEDY'S AND OTHERS INTEREST IN HEALTH PROGRAMS, ABOUT STRUCTURE OF AID PROGRAM ENVISAGED BY ROMANIAN HOSTS BUT SEEMED TO RECOGNIZE COMPLEXITIES AND NEED TO AVOID RIGID CONDITIONS. AS EXPECTED, THEY REGARDED ROMANIAN CONCENTRATION ON HOUSING TO BE EXCESSIVE, PREFERRING 60/40 SPLIT TOWARD WHICH AID TEAM INCLINED. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER, LOGIC OF SANDRU'S ARGUMENT THAT PART OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT IS ALSO REQUIRED TO MAKE HOSPITALS STRUCTURALLY SECURE FOR EQUIPMENT WE WOULD FURNISH.

4. WE USED OCCASION TO POINT OUT OUR PERCEIVED NEED FOR MORE LEGISLATIVE FLEXIBILITY (IN OUR CCC AND PL 480 PROGRAM) IN RESPONDING TO DISASTERS IN COUNTRY LIKE ROMANIA, WHICH, THOUGH DEVELOPING, IS MORE ADVANCED THAN MOST. DEHANN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN EXPLORING FURTHER POSSIBILITY OF MORE GENERAL AMENDMENT TO ALLOW FOR MORE FLEXIBLE EXIM CREDIT LINES AND FOR SIMILAR AMENDMENT TO AID LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR GREATER PRESIDENTIAL DISCRETION.

BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CODELS, VISITS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, NATURAL DISASTERS, EARTHQUAKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770591/aaaadaxb.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 1c86179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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TAGS: SWEL, EAID, OREP, RO, US, (DEHAAN, DALE), (TINKER, JERRY)
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